

FROM THE PEOPLE.

To the Editor of THE BEACON.

I am enclosing you a clipping containing part of an address, delivered by Hon. J. J. Brown, president of the Farmers Union of Georgia. Would that I had the power to convert the Heavens above us, into a mighty scroll, written there on, in letters of living fire, these eternal truths—that they might burn themselves into the minds and thoughts of man.

Arousing them to a realization of the true condition that confronts the American farmer, and working man of today. The address follows below. Read it: "CIVIS."

For ten years the Farmers' Union has stood for and recommended to its members diversified farming, the growing of home supplies, raising cattle and hogs, in fact, we have taught this lesson so thoroughly that it is presumptuous for anyone to suggest these means as any complete solution of our agricultural problems. It is a fact that the Union, in co-operation with our extension and demonstration agencies of this state, has taught our farmers to grow not only two blades where one was formerly grown, but in many cases more than twenty have been produced where the one formerly grew; and yet we find the farmers of our state, as a whole, more heavily in debt than they were five years ago. So, my friends, while it is safe farming to follow these teachings, it is not apparent that we will ever be able to redeem the mortgages that hang over our homes until we devise some plan by which we will be able to demand a margin of profit on these extra blades and extra bushels. We may learn from a scientific application how to grow 100 times what we now raise per acre, but if we sell the increase for less than it costs us to produce it there is no gain to the producer; nor, on the other hand, do we find the laborers in the shops and in the mills living in any more ease and luxury than before we began our system of diversification. But those of us who have been close students on the farm for the past few years, have observed that this extra increase of wealth is going into the hands of the gabblers and the manipulators who control the money of our country and in turn control the prices of our products. And let it be understood here that when we refer to these manipulators who say from the farm that wealth which should go to the producer and legitimate consumer, we do not mean the men who are engaged in legitimate mercantile, and manufacturing industries. The Farmers' Union has no war to make on our merchants and others engaged in facilitating our commerce. We have always had merchants and will ever have them, for the fact that they are essential in a great agricultural and commercial country. One of our greatest handicaps as a farm organization has been due to the misunderstanding that existed on the part of our merchants and country brokers relative to our aims and purpose, but I am glad to say to you today that these misunderstandings are fast passing away and thanks be to those who have stood faithfully by our great Union, your labors have not been in vain. The Union is growing more powerful than ever before, and the business interests have at last seen the necessity of co-operation all along the line in order that our great section may receive her proportionate part of the wealth that she produces. It has begun to dawn on our would-be friends, who once advised us that we had no place in the political arena, that the opposite is absolutely true. While we propose to continue along the line of safe farming, giving the aid of the Union to every agricultural institution in our state that will co-operate with us, we intend to go farther and demand of our law makers, both state and national, that they give to us, as the wealth of this country, our

fair share of the wealth produced through laws that are just and equitable.

The farmers of this country have done more to change the course of humanity from barbarism to civilization than any other class. They have furnished the raw material to make the raiment for the civilized world and food for all mankind. Every ounce of food is a witness to their power and every yard of cloth tells of their work. Their industry is the foundation of commerce. The manufacturers' success and the bankers' security is based on their products. The trains on our mighty railways and the ships of the sea rush to the hungry multitudes the food to feed them, and yet the farmers are getting behind in the procession. For at the beginning of our existence as a nation 90 per cent of our wealth was in the possession of rural population. In 1860 the total wealth of the United States was \$16,000,000,000. The farmers owned \$8,000,000,000, or one-half of our total wealth. Our wealth is at present estimated at \$140,000,000,000, of which \$41,000,000,000 is farm property, but all of this \$41,000,000,000 does not belong to the farmer. Foreign and American corporations, land companies, rich individuals who do not till the soil, and people engaged in other vocations own \$14,000,000,000, or about 37 per cent of the farm wealth of the United States. This leaves in the possession of the real farmer \$27,000,000,000 worth of farm property and this is owned only by a part of them, for in 1910, 37 per cent of the farmers were tenants, and it is safe to say that since the 1910 census our tenantry has increased to not less than 40 per cent. In a little more than fifty years the wealth owned by the farmers has changed from 55 per cent to 20 per cent, so in the name of justice, in the name of all that is near and dear to us, in this the greatest country under the sun, I ask what are we going to do to save our country from a system of slavery on the farms far worse than any system of slavery ever known?

This is the vital issue which must not be obscured by any other question. This is the issue that must be faced, and must be settled. And we, as producers of wealth, and the ones upon whom our nation must depend for prosperity in time of peace and for soldiers in time of war, and for the necessities of life at all times, have a right to demand of our Congressmen and Senators a system of rural credits with direct government loans at a low rate of interest without the intervention of any other moneyed interest, that will enable us to reverse the system of tenantry, debt and mortgage, and bring about the ownership of independent homes. And today, we place the creed of our patriotic forefathers in the forefront of this mighty organization and say to every public servant that "he who is not for us is against us."

We know no party, nor partisanship. What use? All parties, all partisan organizations, have known their loyal spirits, have known their betrayers. "In the word unspoken is the silence of God" and in the non-partisan judgment of those who place country above class, above persons, is the seat of the mighty like the arm of omnipotence itself.

The time calls for men. While Washington prayed in the snows of Valley Forge, Robert Morris, a plain, practical banker, put resources behind the pitiable, struggling, starving Continental army. Washington was not the radical that Thomas Jefferson was; Thomas Jefferson was not the iron man we had in Andrew Jackson, but in all of these, according to his talents, we had a man who disdained class and stood for the people—the human rights upon which love of country rests. We cannot measure all by one yardstick. Strength and genius differ, but he who does in a time of need that which he can do is the patriot, and may the Almighty pity those who think only of how best to promote their own prosperity and comfort!

I appeal to those who hear me, not for my sake, or for the sake

of the Farmers' Union, but for the sake of Georgia, to stand fast to the principles that shall blaze the way for real economic freedom for these United States and for the world. Upon Georgia, upon those who are now within the hearing of my voice, rests the responsibility for a new and regenerated world. Europe with its devastation of military struggle, America with its no less awful devastation of industrial war, await the light of manly peace—not pusillanimous surrender, the peace of an economic cemetery in which the majority decay and a few fatten, but the strong, calm, sane peace based on stern, sound righteousness, invincible morality and the application, for the first time in all the ages, of the Golden Rule in the relations of man and man.

Georgia's Lynching Record.

Georgia has as good people as are born and reared in any state in the union, but this better element has allowed itself to be "rough-shodded" aside while a certain other element has made the state a glaring example of lawlessness and bloody debauchery of justice.

Georgia led all of the union in the number of lynchings last year, breaking the record with 18 of these illegal executions, doubling the records of the two states next to her—Alabama and Mississippi—each of which had nine.

Would it not seem that the state that has produced some of the greatest men of the South would be so ashamed of this stain upon her legal escutcheon that she would set up the sign of "Never again" over the work of a masked mob? And yet, with the new year just three weeks old, she sees five of these base hangings already set down in her account book. And all five of them took place at the same time. It seems that a Georgia mob cannot do its lynchings in broken doses, but must have an orgy of murder-madness with victims galore. One sheriff is slain while he is supposed to have been performing his duties; and immediately five negroes are strung up to trees and riddled with bullets by members of an infuriated mob. This is the uncivilized code of Mexico, not the code of an enlightened people, and if Georgia intends to keep up this practice it is a pity she cannot be moved down to the border and annexed to the hot tamale and hotted tempered country of the lawless Mexicans.

If the pace of five lynchings in three weeks is kept up, the state will land itself outside of the pale of civilization long before the summer solstice.

And the pity of it is that the rest of the South must bear a part of the ignominy. As the South is "solid," so the glory of one state sheds a luster over all, and the shame of one darkens the fair name of the others. So closely is the section bound together that, like a family, the disgrace of one member reflects upon all. Georgia is not at liberty to keep up or to make a new record for herself in lines of lawlessness, because she cannot keep the shame of it all to herself.

The people of the state of high ideals and love of justice—and these people are largely in the majority—owe it to themselves, to the rest of the South, to the states of the entire union and to the civilized world at large to rise up and punish and put down that smaller portion of the population who spit upon the law and look at life through the noose of a rope that no court or judge has prescribed. The rest of the South demands this.

Around those five dangling bodies the good people of the state should draw "the awful circle" of the established law, across which no man might step and go unwhipped with the scourge of retribution.

Those five stains are already upon the judgment book of public opinion, and cannot be erased. But if Georgia allows so much as one more to be added to the list she will draw upon herself a far reaching opprobrium that will be hard to bear or to live down. Right here is the place for her to write "finis" to the story of her lynchings.—Commercial Appeal.

Mule WANTED—A good all-round work mule. A. E. SPICKER, Macon, Miss.

Spring 1916

Good News for the Man Who Will Wear Only a STETSON—

And an Invitation to the Man Who seeks a BETTER Hat.

The new Stetson Hats for Spring are ready. The shapes are original in style with a trifle more height to the crown. New colorings are distinctive.

Choosing a Stetson takes mighty few minutes here. Stetson Hats are built to suit your personal ideas. You select the finest Stetson display we have shown.

A. K. K. & Co.

The Liar.

It is related in biblical lore that Ananias and Sapphira were struck dead for lying. If such a heavenly edict should be issued today they would bury men and women in trenches.

The lie has become a conventional method of avoiding compromising difficulties. We lie to each other with the most serene countenances. Men lie to their wives and wives lie to their husbands. We lie in business and wink and think that the white lie does not count.

Witnesses purjure themselves in courts of justice where honor is supposed to preside.

When the blind poet Milton said, "Give me liberty to know, to think, to believe, to utter freely according to conscience above all liberties," he echoed the real spirit of man. But this sentiment is based upon truth. Truth is the foundation of any peaceful home. Truth is the very foundation of our present civilization.

There is no vice that covers a man with so much shame as the deliberate habit of lying. All that such a man gains is the tribute of not being believed when he tells the truth.

There is another point which might be suggested to our modern liars. When they lie they should have pretty good memories. When a man goes before a court and tells the truth the shrewdest of cross-examiners cannot shake him or make him deviate from the evidence given. The liar is liable to get badly mixed up unless he has a perfect memory.

One lie must be bolstered up by another, if not it will soon fall down.

The harmless lie sometimes does the greatest hurt. A lie about a woman will shatter a reputation. It may be inadvertently uttered but the dark goes home and all of the retractions which may follow will not relieve the lingering sting of suspicion. Men sometimes humorously indulge in a lie about each other, but they do not realize how a rolling stone gathers moss and what the result of the lie may be.

One of the greatest virtues in this world is the plain truth and the greatest recognition of this is to use it.

A seemingly harmless lie in more than one instance has resulted in disaster.

We are getting very careless of the truth and when we begin to realize that truth and love are two

of the most powerful influences in the world we can face the future with a certainty of peace and happiness hereafter. — Commercial Appeal.

The Farm Dairy.

There is an unlimited and an undeveloped field for the produce of the dairy. Much has been done to hamper the consumption of milk, cream and butter by city regulations and inspection and by transportation difficulties; but these will gradually disappear when the dairymen realize that the best profit comes from the products that are best protected and best prepared to attract the attention of the consumer.

Milk is the primal food of the race, yet the consumption of milk and milk products is lamentably light when compared to the consumption of other products. The consumption of beer and whiskey, is insignificant.

The dairyman should make the consumer realize that there is no substitute for milk and milk products, and that whatever enlarges milk consumption improves the health of the race.

Let the farmer begin this work at home, let him improve his own dairy; add a cow or two; give the members of his family all the dairy products they can consume; watch the effect on the health. Then let him develop a milk route or a butter route of his own, to be served, if he prefers, by his own wagon or automobile. Then he and his neighbors can join to ship milk and cream and butter to the nearest town, and so the traffic will grow.

But the condition of success is, the production of the best milk at the lowest price. You must, therefore, study the question of the best cow for the dairy and the best care and feeding of that cow. — Home and Farm.

Seed Corn 100 bushels Hasting Prolific, field selected from stalks bearing from 2 to 4 ears—hand shelled. Delivered in ear if preferred. Price \$2.50 per bushel. R. H. RICHARDS, Maconville, Miss.

For Sale BERKSHIRE HOGS—A few berkshire hogs for sale. W. P. KIDD, Route 2, Macon, Miss.

Peanuts FOR SALE—Large white, 25 pounds to bushel; 1 bushel 20 lbs. to bushel, difference of 7 lbs. I made this year an average of 55 bushels per acre. For hog feed they are much better than the Spanish, as they do not grow in bunches. Phone me at residence of J. A. Campbell or leave orders with R. E. V. Yates. Price 90¢ per bushel in lots of five bushels or more \$1 per bushel for less. R. K. CANNON, Macon, Miss.

For Sale One good buggy and horse. Would sell horse separate if desired. Also have a six key Burroughs Adding Machine practically new. All of above will go at a bargain. Address or call at depot, Shugart, Miss. A. E. ARNOLD.



Mrs. L. Estelle Van Zandt Barclay is now in Chicago rehearsing for a coming tour with the Venetians, a small but noted troupe of high class musicians, of which she is to be a notable member. Their tour will begin this fall and extend into next spring and will cover New England, New York and the middle and middle western states. Mrs. Barclay will perform on the violin, cello, guitar and piano.

Music lovers of Macon will watch Mrs. Barclay's career on the professional stage with a great deal of kindly interest and confidence. Coming here from Kansas City where she had been organist in one of the largest churches, she from the start took a great interest and an active part in the musical life of the town and did a great deal in developing the taste for fine music here. Her main work was with the Baptist choir which under her encouragement and management gave some of the best local music ever heard here. Its most notable achievement was the rendition of Gabriel's cantata, "The Nazarene." Her music class was showing the splendid effect of her teaching when her present duties called her away. In the musical societies here, especially the Music Teachers' association, her work and influence were marked. Her charming personality as well as her musical talents won her a high place in the regard of the people of Macon.

From her achievements here her friends see nothing but confident expectation of Mrs. Barclay making a splendid success in her new field.

For Sale PRIVATELY: five good work mules 40 Jersey springer cows and heifers, 1 buller, 2 mowers, bull rake, dump rake and plows. W. L. RANKIN, Brooksville, Miss.

For Sale: AT A BARGAIN—One good horse, buggy and set of harness. Apply C. M. SCALES.

SALESMAN WANTED to look after our interest in Noxubee and adjacent counties. Salary or commission. Address THE HARVEY OIL CO., Cleveland, O.

Jersey Heifers FOR SALE—Several nice Jersey heifers, full blood and high grade. T. W. JACKSON, Prairie Point.